

What

A transient tax, commonly referred to as a bed tax, is a **5%** surcharge added to hotel stays. The tax will create **\$3.45** million over the next **23** years.



Where/Why

Funds will be put towards a **multi-purpose facility**, as well as **tourism costs**.

When

The transient tax will be placed on the **Nov. 8** ballot.

Who

The transient tax will only affect hotel guests, who will pay an extra **\$4** per night.



ALEXANDRA MELO-MORA | NW MISSOURIAN

Bed Tax

Ballot initiative to create tourist budget

BROOKE BEASLEY
Chief Reporter | @beemackkk40

Nodaway County residents will decide the fate of a new Northwest multipurpose facility this November.

If passed, a transient tax, dubbed “the bed tax,” will place a five percent tax on hotel stays. The tax is designed to create funding from tourism costs, which will fund a multi-purpose facility, to be placed on the Northwest Missouri State University campus.

The building will include an indoor arena for sports, an indoor track, and removable flooring to accommodate big events. The arena will seat up to 7,000 people.

The three acre building is estimated to cost about \$20 million, with the University covering most of the cost. The building is hoped to bring in more sports tourism, which in turn will help pay off the construction costs. However, city officials are proposing a five percent bed tax, or to cover approximately \$150,000 over the next 23 years.

Transient taxes are legal under

Section 67.1003.1 of the Revised Missouri State Statutes. The tax, which is a five percent surcharge on hotel stays amounting to an extra four dollars a night, will be put to vote at the Nov. 8 general election. In 2003 a bed tax was rejected. There have been questions about what happens if it isn’t approved again.

“I know that if it isn’t approved, there will still be a pretty significant funding gap for the project. The community’s total investment is around \$3.45 million. Those funds will have to be found elsewhere,” City Manager Greg McDanel said.

If not approved, the city will have to wait until 2018 to put the tax back on the ballot, due to the state statute that says taxes can only be placed on the polls on even numbered years. The construction of the building will most likely be postponed if the bed tax isn’t approved due to the significant funding gap according to McDanel.

Most hotels and restaurants approve of the tax, which wouldn’t affect Maryville residents. The tax would only apply to those who come through and

stay in hotels or lodgings. Some students are worried about their parents paying it when they come to visit though.

“If your parents don’t have anywhere else to stay, it’s going to make it more expensive for kids to see their parents. It could make parents less likely to come visit,” freshman Emmalee Shields said.

In a press release from Northwest, Lonelle Rathje, Ph.D, explained how common bed taxes are.

“The tool is used widely, with worldwide, national, state and regional uses,” Rathje said. “At least 72 cities or counties in Missouri have adopted a transient guest tax to further tourism and economic development efforts and promote their communities as a destination. Nearly 140 cities or counties in Kansas and 170 cities or counties in Iowa have adopted a transient guest tax at an average rate of five percent.”

McDanel said the transient tax has gained popularity in the past five to 10 years. Also that there is a good chance that it could be approved, 13 years after its denial of only 21 votes in 2003.

Greek Life visioning process nears completion

ANTHONY PROCOPIO ROSS
Chief Reporter | @AnthonyProcRoss

Changes to Greek life approach to better facilitate an always evolving Greek life community.

A plan of action is underway under supervision of Coordinator of the Office of Student Involvement Lauren Stehlik to properly address the future of the Greek life program. A final report is to be given to Northwest Missouri State University President John Jasinski mid-November.

A core group of seven, including National Pan-Hellenic Council, Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council and faculty members, set out to initially gage the perceptions held in the Greek life community. This visioning process included sending out a detailed survey to the Northwest Missouri State community.

Jasinski sent out an email at the end of the Fall 2016 semester detailing the changes he referred to as a Greek Life visioning process.

“As we are engaged in addressing a strategic plan as well as a campus master plan, it is appropriate to ask for a Greek Life visioning process designed to address how we might be proactive in shaping



HANNAH WOODSON | NW MISSOURIAN

After having another meeting with members of campus and community, the University is “75 percent” done with its report.

ing its future outlook at Northwest in order to ensure its vibrancy and positive contributions to student, organizational and community success,” Jasinski said in the email.

A requested feedback report was sent to Jasinski April 15 concerning input from the Northwest Missouri State community. After consideration within the core group, consultants were hired to approach the operation with fresh eyes.

Stehlik leads the ongoing process

of improvement on account of her experience overseeing Greek life. Stehlik felt as though the consulting team of two have been phenomenal throughout the whole process.

“They were on campus in April with a variety of stakeholders and students and then created a report of ‘this is where we see your community is at right now,’” Stehlik said. “They came back in July over our work weekend, so that was more the middle of July and we started work-

ing on SOAR analysis to talk about strengths that are in our communities, opportunities, growth aspirations and results.”

Stehlik called this report the ‘75 percent completed report.’ A work community containing roughly 60 people looked at what was found in July to add to the report. Focus aims at future strategies for Greek Life

SEE **GREEK LIFE** | A5

Legislation creates challenges for sheltered workshop

DARCIE BRADFORD
Managing Editor | @Darcie_Jeanne_7

The future of a local sheltered workshop could be in danger as government regulations complicate their daily business and force them to cut hours.

NoCoMo Industries is a sheltered workshop, which is a place that provides dignified employment for those who have disabilities. NoCoMo is focused on recycling, they run a package and assembly area, a full woodshop, a recycling area that runs four bailers, a sort line, public pickup and some contract work.

General Manager of NoCoMo Industries Nicki Samson said that a sheltered workshop is perfect for people with disabilities because they know their needs can be met.

“If an employee were to have some issues in the bathroom, or had some sort of medical issue they needed help with, they would feel comfortable asking someone for help here,” Samson said. “And that is where the word sheltered comes in, you can do that here with dignity, but other employers can’t have someone to just take care of that.”

There are two pieces of legislation that could create problems for the sheltered workshop. The first being a senate bill that provides money for the workshop, the second being a revision to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

The first piece of legislation that could pose a problem for NoCoMo Industries is Senate Bill 40. SB 40 allows Nodaway County to use property taxes earmarked to offset the operation cost to employ those with disabilities. This tax accounts for approximately \$15,000 of NoCoMo’s revenue. If the bill is voted down, the workshop will lose a substantial amount of funding.

The second piece of legislation is the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. While the WIOA is the first comprehensive update to the workforce policy in 15 years, Samson believes that it could do more harm than good.

“The big change and the big issue with it is with this new enforcement is that anyone age 25 or younger now has to have an open vocational rehabilitation folder,” Samson said. “You used to have the choice to work here and get some job skills and move on to public work, or some people said this place was a godsend because they knew if it wasn’t this it wasn’t anything. That choice has been taken away... Now they (vocational rehabilitation) are absolutely forced to see every child first and determine where they can work, no one can come directly into a sheltered workshop anymore.”

The second update to the WIOA was a provision that stated that all employees not included in the 25 and under rule must have an evaluation annually to determine if they should continue at a workshop or if they should move on to public work.

“It has to be documented (every year) that this is where they want to work,” Samson said. “The biggest problem I have with that is, that



DARCIE BRADFORD | NW MISSOURIAN

Certified employee Alexandra Butts works at NoCoMo Industries with recyclable materials from Nodaway County. Butts has worked for NoCoMo for five years.

they chose it to begin with. Don’t take the choice away. And how would you feel if your boss called you into his office every year and said ‘do you really want to work here?’, ‘Do you want another job?’. My first thought would be, they are trying to get rid of me.”

Samson said she believes that this enforcement may be going too far.

“I think it is a shame at best, but it’s kind of abusive too,” Samson said. “I know my employees pretty well and I take pride in that, none of my employees want to work anywhere else, most of them have tried it and did not succeed and they were ashamed because they were disrespected.”

SEE **LEGISLATION** | A5

NEWS BRIEF

Drive-thru coffeehouse comes to Maryville

Maryville city officials approved to bring a drive-thru coffeehouse to town later this year.

Scooter’s Coffee comes to 1308 South Main Street this December. The coffeehouse will serve hot and iced drinks, blenders, smoothies, teas and food.

Scooter’s Coffee has 150 coffeehouses in the United States. The Maryville location is one of 40 coffeehouses projected to open in 2016.

Diversity discussed by faculty members

JAMES HENDERSON III
Editor in Chief | @jendersoniii

Faculty and staff discussed solving social issues in the University’s fifth installment of The Institute of Social Justice: Conversation on Racial Inequality.

This program focuses on opening discussions about race relations and how each individual fits into that mold. The seven-session program is put on by Northwest Missouri State University’s Office of Human Resources and Office of Multicultural Student Success and is held for faculty and staff of the University.

The course started Oct. 6, its first ever fall session. With two different groups being taught at the same time, a total of nearly 30 participants make up the program’s largest attendance thus far.

Each attendee is required to be at every session over the seven weeks of training. Faculty wanting to join after the start date would be too late, but the course will be offered again in the spring at a different time to compensate varying schedules.

Director of Diversity and Inclusion Steve Bryant is the coordinator of these sessions and said the purpose of this program is to turn the mirror on oneself and try to get in touch with how each individual works in society and less about how the rest society works around the individual.

SEE **DIVERSITY** | A5



Northwest Student Dietetic Association put on its annual Backpack Buddies 5K run Sat. Oct. 8 raising nearly \$700.

Campus, community run for a cause

MYRANDA NERUD
Chief Reporter | @thatkidmyranda

Members of Northwest Student Dietetic Association and community members raced to meet the needs of students deprived of essential nutrients.

Backpack Buddies is an organization helping students from low income families receive needed nutrition. Nutrition and Dietetics instructor and Northwest Student Dietetic Association sponsor Kelli Wilmes says the organization focuses on helping the community. The Dietetic

Association and Backpack Buddies, both food-orientated organizations, partnered for the 5K.

The 5K was held Saturday, Oct. 8 and had about 60 participants. This year’s turnout was not as high as previous years due to some challenges faced during the planning phase.

“Normally, we have it at night and when we scheduled it, there was nothing on the Northwest calendar,” Northwest Student Dietetic Association treasurer Kate Sloan said. “Then Hunter Hayes was here, so we bumped it to the morning.”

Although the outcome was not what was expected, Wilmes said she is pleased with the turnout, considering the changes made. Overall, Wilmes says the event was a success. The run received a lot of community response and local donations. The organization raised about \$700 for Backpack Buddies, according to Sloan. Wilmes said the plan for next year is to continue to have the run at night.

“Next year, we plan to have it at night because I think that was probably one of the things that lost some people, trying to get students up early,” Wilmes said.

Maryville chamber gets new director

DARCIE BRADFORD
Managing Editor | @Darcie_Jeane_7

Former Bearcat Lily White hopes to further unite the city and University as she fills the position of Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce.

“I went to Northwest and graduated about a year ago, so that is my connection and it helps a lot,” White said. “Our board president right now is Brandon Stanley; he’s the Vice President of Marketing at Northwest, and it gives me a lot of connections, too. The University is actually a chamber member, so it gives me a lot of ways to help the University and help the city work better together.”

White was hired by the committee of the Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce mid-September and started her job as Maryville Chamber Executive Director Sept. 26.

President of the Board of Directors



LILY WHITE

Brandon Stanley said White was their top choice because of her experience.

“Lily was our top choice because of her previous experience in event planning, her leadership qualities and her desire to help strengthen our business in Maryville at a time of growth,” Stanley said. “She is very passionate about Maryville and ready to get settled and to work.”



SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

SAC welcomes speaker Hilary Corna to campus

BROOKE BEASLEY
Chief Reporter | @beemackkkk40

Author and motivational speaker Hilary Corna came to a Northwest Student Activities Council event with a dare for the audience.

Hilary Corna is the author of the new book “One White Face,” a memoir of her travels and time overseas in Singapore.

Corna grew up in a single parent home with four other siblings, including her twin brother. Her father passed away when she was only nine months old, leaving her mother to struggle to keep the family afloat. Corna used this, and all the lessons she learned from struggling economically,

to motivate her to go farther.

“My mother was the hardest working person I knew, and she taught me to work hard too. As a kid...I wanted the things the other kids at school had, and wanted them to come easily. But my self-reliance also meant I began setting goals at a young age, and achieving them.” Corna said on the second and third page in her book.

Corna had always wanted to study abroad in Japan because her grandmother had a Japanese lifestyle. She used her lessons learned in childhood to save up enough money, and got scholarships to study abroad in Japan during

college, and got offered a once-in-a-lifetime offer, an internship with her host father’s company in Japan.

She turned it down to spend the summer with her boyfriend at the time. This meant she had to go home, and she began to feel restless. Corna wished to return to traveling. For the rest of college, she saved all the money she could, Then moved to Singapore July 5, 2007 to try to find a job.

Finding a job was not as easy as she anticipated, and she did not exactly have the support of her family. After a phone call with some family members trying to persuade her to come home and give up, she

decided to unwind and go for a swim.

She ended up finding her job by a pool, after talking to a small child and his mother in Japanese. The father of the child, after a few minutes of conversation, offered her a job as a Toyota senior executive leader.

The title of her book came from something her boss said to her at this job. He pointed out to her that she was the only white face in the room. She was also the only female. In fact, she was the first Caucasian, native English speaking, American female there had ever been at the company.

As a motivational speaker, she has started many new things as well. Corna started her own campaign, the Dare Yourself campaign. She started the campaign to challenge college students to dare themselves to do what they want to do, rather than what they’re told they can and can’t do. She started it so students know that no matter how hard things get, life isn’t against you, and things can go right. The campaign’s trending hashtag is #DareYourself.

“There’s a difference between the right thing and what’s right,” Corna said. “Never forget, life is on your side.”

Some activities of the night included writing down a personal goal, or “dare,” on a notecard, and

then writing down ways we can clear our paths and go in depth with it.

Graduate student Tega Kurucheti was particularly moved by this. He came in with a very anticipatory mindset, and left with a whole new one.

“This really changed the way I think. Also, the way I understand things. I want to take the courage and try to do things I was really afraid of before, and start actually doing something on my to-do list to try and reach my goals,” Kurucheti said.

Corna came to Maryville on the request of SAC. SAC organized the event as part of one of their yearly activities.

“We thought she had a great message to share, and she encompassed what people requested on the Twitter poll. I’m going to go out and dare myself to be a better leader, a better student, to accomplish more things here at Northwest,” sophomore SAC member Shyla Kallhoff said.

Every year they try to organize a speaker, concerts, and various student involvement activities. This year there are still many activities to come, including a comedian, cosmic bowling, karaoke night, and much more. There is a full events calendar on the school website.

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Turkey hunters struggle to capture wild birds

ANNA HASTERT

News Editor | @AnnaHasDirt

The fall firearms turkey season, beginning Oct. 1, sent hunters scrambling to fill their two allotted turkey tags.

This year’s fall firearms turkey season proves difficult as Missouri is faced with a turkey shortage. According to the Missouri Department of Conservation 2016 Missouri Wild Turkey Brood Survey Results, “this year’s statewide poult-to-hen ratio was 0.8, 47 percent less than the 2015 ratio.”

Nodaway County Conservation Agent Christine Campbell says wet weather patterns created poor nesting conditions, impacting overall turkey production.

“This year, we did not have a good spring,” Campbell said. “Hens were not able to catch enough hatchlings to make numbers stable or increase our bird number/population. If it’s damp and wet, nesting is not productive. A hen has to be able to sit on their nest without being disturbed by predators or prey, in order to get a good hatching of young turkey poults. But in wet springs, hens won’t stay on their nests long enough for those eggs to hatch.”

Campbell says mass nut production also played a factor in the turkey shortage.

“Another factor that made fall firearm turkey season challenging is the good, mass production of nuts in the northwest region,” Campbell said. “The mass production of nuts means oaks produced acorns, the food source for turkeys, is back in



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Missouri residents find it difficult to shoot turkeys for the firearm season following a 47 percent decline in poult-to-hen numbers compared to previous years.

the timber where they turkeys are. The nuts are the main staple for turkeys to feed on before winter, to increase their body weight. With a mass production of nuts, turkeys are not going to have to forage out in the open, grain fields after harvest as much, making them more difficult to see by the hunters.”

Other factors affecting turkey production include: conditions of the birds, predator numbers and outside influences.

Campbell says she doesn’t see the turkey shortage affecting partici-

pation in fall firearms turkey season.

“You, the hunter, have to be on your game in order to harvest a turkey this year and you have to be in an area where there’s plenty of birds,” Campbell said. “It will be challenging for our hunters, but I still look for several of our hunters to harvest birds if they want to put a little extra time in the field.”

Mitchell Colson, a senior Physical Education major, has been hunting turkey in Missouri for three years. Colson says this year’s turkey shortage won’t stop him from

participating in fall firearms turkey season.

“If there is a shortage of turkeys, I will still hunt because of the fact that’s it’s what I love to do,” Colson said. “I think that the shortage will make hunters have to work harder to get birds or maybe change the way that they hunt in the fall, but I think plenty of hunters will still go.”

Despite this year’s turkey shortages, Campbell reminds hunters to follow common safety procedures while hunting.

“What I would recommend is

be sure of your target,” Campbell said. “Fall firearms season is a time when the fall foliage is falling off trees and stuff and the leaves. Fall firearms turkey season is unlike deer season, when you’re wearing a flaming, orange vests. During the fall, there are a lot of folks that are in the woods at the same time hunters. With that being said, I would caution hunters to be very careful and positively identify their target before pulling their trigger.”

Fall firearms turkey season runs through Oct. 31.



HANNAH WOODSON | NW MISSOURIAN

Northwest student Hannah Wilburn jumps around a trampoline supporting her sorority, Sigma Sigma Sigma’s event “Pie A Sigma” Oct. 3.

Tri Sigma dedicated to philanthropy

EMILY SMITH

Chief Reporter | @TheMissourian

Pies, trampolines and poor lip-synching helped raise funds for sick children last week.

The Alpha Epsilon chapter of Sigma Sigma Sigma raised funds for the Robbie Page Foundation, a foundation providing donations for play therapy. Each year, Sigma member allow student and faculty to Pie-A-Sigma and release their inner child through a lip-sync competition.

Robbie Page Week kicked off with a pie to the face. At least it did for sorority member Hailee Shady.

“Raising money for this is an absolutely great cause, so it’s OK to get pied in the face,” Shady said.

This was during an event called Pie A Sigma in which passersby could donate a dollar to the Robbie Page Foundation and have the opportunity to smooch a pie into a Tri Sigma member’s face.

Other fundraising events throughout the week included Rockin’ For Robbie Oct. 6, a lip-sync competition in which teams entered for a chance to win money for their organization or charity.

Tri Sigma senior and philanthropy chair Mariah Pride says teams paid a \$50 fee to enter the competition. Pride goes on to add, the winning team received 10 percent of funds raised throughout the week, as an incentive to participate.

The rest of the money raised

throughout the week goes directly to the Robbie Page Foundation, a non-profit organization that focuses primarily on children and play therapy.

“The money that we raise helps to donate teddy bears where [children] can learn how they will be operated on, so they get that whole experience in a safe way, not through scary technology,” Pride said.

She also explained the importance of providing these children with objects and experiences from the kid world.

“We bring things from the kid world into the hospital so they get that experience of being a kid,” Pride said.

Pride’s overall goal for the week is connecting Northwest students with the idea of giving hospitalized children a childhood.

“By the end of it, we want Northwest students to want [a childhood] for those kids as well,” Pride said.

During the week, a trampoline sat near the Memorial Bell Tower. Tri Sigma used it as a tool to connect with Northwest students and bring back memories of childhood in an attempt to appeal to the nostalgia of youth.

“We use the trampoline to help the nostalgia come back, (for students to think) there are a bunch of (sick) kids and I want them to experience those (good) memories and be able to help them,” Pride said.

Tri Sigma has been focused on

children for many years, ever since the death of Robbie Page, the son of a former Tri Sigma national president.

“Our old national president had a five-year-old son that was diagnosed with polio and he passed away shortly after. So Sigma started the Robbie Page Foundation. All the money raised went toward research and a vaccination, and now all the money goes toward play therapy,” Pride said.

Pride also stressed the emotional connection, between the sorority and foundation, motivated members during Robbie Page Week.

Pride also stressed a personal connection to the sorority as a whole.

“I think it’s one of the things that is easy to connect each and every single one of us and our chapter to kind of give us more passion and drive to do better and fundraise harder and put all that you can into it,” Pride said.

Sorority member Erica Brade felt similarly.

“It’s really important to Tri Sigma because it was a personal thing. It was one of our founders, so it’s really important to us because it leads back to us. I love children too, so I was really excited when we started doing all of it,” Brade said.

Sigma will continue with its philanthropy efforts later this year, keeping with its focus, “Sigma Serves Children.”

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Presidential candidates leave much to be desired



Sunday’s debate leaves a lot to discuss. To say the least, there were a lot of firsts.

For example, for the first time, a presidential candidate hinted at sending the other candidate to jail once elected. For the first time, a presidential candidate lost support from major party leaders. But the most important conversation to be had about the debate was the estrangement from classic debate.

During the debate, I thought about how both candidates focused more on how their opponent was not fit to be president rather than what their perspective was on the issues facing our country and what they would implement as president to better our country.

Presidential debates were never meant to be a competition. There was never meant to be a loser or a winner, and debates were never meant to entertain the American people. Societies have been debating since the early 18th century.

The idea of a debate was constructed during the Age of Enlightenment in England as a way for people of every background in society to discuss a variety of topics to gain more understanding. Flash forward, the first televised presidential debate was in 1960, Kennedy v. Nixon. Debates have been part of the election cycle since 1976.

Since 1976, debates have been moderated by a nonpartisan sponsor organized for the American people to hear the nominees’ perspectives on the issues facing this country.

People everywhere suffer from not being able to have a civil-conducive discussion with those who differ in opinion, not just presiden-



COLIN VAUGHNI NW MISSOURIAN

tial candidates.

Fights on social media about political ideals have become commonplace. It has become an issue that, instead of discussing the issues to gain better insight into your beliefs, we insult one another on appearance, intelligence,—you name it.

The debate Sunday was a reflection of this recent trend, and that is what disgusted me the most. If we, as a country, are unable to see the people we are potentially voting for actually discuss the issues facing

this country, how will we get a taste of what decisions they will make to affect our everyday lives?

This political gridlock and polarization is not only affecting the executive branch, but also the legislative branch of our government. In 1973-1974, 772 laws were enacted, but that number has slowly decreased and from 2013-2015 with only 296 laws enacted. There are several branches of government failing our country due to an inability to discuss opinions.

This idea of both presidential candidates being unable to discuss the issues facing this great country, but rather belittling one another, came to a head at the end of the debate.

At the end of the debate, a man from the audience asked, “Can you name one positive thing you respect in one another?” and both candidates avoided that question like the plague because they could not give the other one any ground as being a decent, respectable person.

At first, Donald was disinclined to respond to the question, physically cringing and distancing himself from the speaker and Hillary hesitantly responded by talking about how she respects the success that Donald’s children have had.

Donald then responded that Hillary, despite many losses, is a fighter. Both responses were a display of how hard it is for them to respect one another.

The debate left much to be desired, much like the two candidates.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Suicide and self-harm is serious business

MAKENZIE DOCKERTY

Suicide and self-harm is serious business.

I am going to come out and say there have been occasions where suicide did cross my mind. I have also self-harmed, because, at the time, it felt like the only feasible option that could help me take my mind off what was going on.

I thought last week’s column was really good, in the beginning. Once I got toward the end of the column, it really began to bug me. Not only because I have had these thoughts, but because I have talked some friends out of suicide and helped them find something else to think about.

There have been nights where I stayed up just to make someone feel better, because I know trying to get out of that hole by yourself is hard, and it is harder when you cannot reach out to a professional.

I absolutely hate when people say what they are going through is not bad or someone has it worse than you. I call bull. It does not matter if someone has it worse than you. Telling someone that his or her problems are not as big as yours makes his or her feelings invalid, making him or her feel even worse.

I have been told that a couple of times, and it made me feel even worse than before. I did not move for a long time after that. I have had a person who was supposedly my friend tell me that I should not feel the way I was feeling, because someone out there had it worse than me. That also made me feel worse.

Self-harm is another story. Suicide and self-harm tend to go hand in hand, but not everyone who self-harms is suicidal.

When I first started self-harming, I was not suicidal. I still do not consider myself suicidal because it does not cross my mind frequently. Sure, there are really bad days or even

weeks, but I always find someone to talk to about it.

People self-harm for a variety of reasons, but the main reason I started was the pressure high school was putting on me and societal standards of being a perfect girl. It was not something I did consistently, but starting college made it worse for me. The pressure of keeping my grades up, starting a new job and having to make a whole new set of friends while trying to decide if my major was right for me was too much.

I talked to one of the counselors at the Wellness Center last year about all the stress and pressure I was feeling and it really helped. She found ways that helped me put everything into a more positive perspective.

Yes, listening will help tremendously when someone is in a mindset where the only way out is suicide, but sometimes people know how to word phrases or keep their expressions neutral so that no one really notices. I have done it before, plenty of times.

After learning to listen, the next step is asking the right questions. Word the questions in a way that makes it not seem like an interrogation, but still makes your concern known. It is a hard thing to do, but just learning to listen will help tremendously.

We, as a generation, have to stop using suicide as a way out, but it seems like all that pressure is being put on the suicidal to change their behavior.

What we, as a generation, need to recognize are the signs and how to listen and ask the right questions. We also need to be there for people who are suicidal. Be their shoulder to cry on, their ear to vent to, or their person to just sit in silence while they think. The first step is learning how to listen.

OUR VIEW:

Make Greek Life Great Again

Greek life is an important part of Northwest’s culture and is in need of the Greek Visioning Process to keep it alive and strong for years to come.

In January 2015, Greek Advisor Lauren Stehlik, Greek advisor, began working toward a Greek visioning process for the campus. She had a team consisting of two graduates, a graduate student and a student from each of the Greek governing bodies: Panhellenic, Interfraternity Council and National Panhellenic Council.

This process began with surveys sent out to the Northwest campus including Greek students, non-Greek students, faculty, staff and advisors.

“I call it kind of a temperature gauge. What are the perceptions of the Greek community, what value does the Greek community add as a student and in life post-Northwest, what would they like to see change, things like that,” Stehlik said.

Northwest then hired two Greek life consultants in April who met with stakeholders and students and analyzed where Greek life is at on campus. They returned in July to work on campus’ SOAR analysis: strengths, opportunities, growth aspirations and results.

Oct. 2, Stehlik, along with about 60 members from the community, including Greeks, non-Greeks, faculty, staff and alumni met to work on the “75 percent completed report.” The group hopes to have the final report to President Jasinski in November, complete with short-term and long-term changes.

“We know that Greek life is

changing here at Northwest; we know that it’s changing nationally; we know that the students coming to college are changing... we have to keep changing with that,” Stehlik said.

Although specifics cannot be released yet, some of the more minor changes to be made include relationships between Greek organizations and their advisors, public relations and communications.

Some of the bigger and more important topics include risk management, accountability and year-to-year stability.

New Greek life leadership is chosen every year, so the plan is something that can be applied each year, meaning governing bodies do not have to start from scratch.

Risk management and accountability have been major issues in Greek life in the recent past, so it is important these issues are addressed and changed.

In order to make these changes happen, students will be better utilized. This includes creating more committees between governing bodies and getting more hands on deck to create better student involvement and ownership. This is an important change to get students involved and to take pride in their organizations.

The idea for a Greek visioning process was brought up in Nov. and the planning process will take about a year.

“We didn’t want to drag it out, but we didn’t want to rush it either, because you need to have time to really look at the community and assess the community and really create action items that will work well,” Stehlik said. “It’s im-

portant that the plan looks at the surrounding community and its perception of Greek life to get an outsider’s view on what can and should be changed.”

Some of these changes will start as soon as next semester.

“It will never truly be done. This will always be part of my job, part of our governing councils, looking at ‘we need to revisit this’ or ‘how is this working,’” Stehlik said. “It’s a learning process, but it’s needed. We have a strong Greek community, but we have room for improvement.”

Even though some changes may not be immediate and will be a learning experience, it is important that Greek life advisors, members and governing bodies realize that these changes need to be made.

A visioning process may sound daunting and unnecessary but it is the opposite. The world around us is changing and as a community, we need to change too. The process is one that should be welcomed because the community around us will see Greek life is more than partying and sexual assault.

All organizations have their flaws and Greek life is choosing to recognize and fix their’s.

The Greek Visioning Process is an important step in the right direction to show Greek life’s true colors.

As a staff that employs several Greek life members, we see this is something needing to happen in order to make Greek life great again.

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www.nwmissourianews.com
northwestmissourian@gmail.com

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DIVERSITY
CONTINUED FROM A1

“If we look at the things going on inside of us internally like bias, privilege, internal racism, we look at all of them through the lens of race, but it can be applied to things such as homophobia, classism, and all other bias existing,” Bryant said. “We look at how it influences relationships interpersonally between people, institutionally, and how it shows up overall totally.”

Bryant said this internal focus is paramount to the growth of the members of the program.

“So we have all these layers influenced by who we are, our own identity, our own culture, and then history, what we learned, what we didn’t learn and what we learned that was false,” Bryant said. “The goal of that is to get everyone to understand when things happen in society. There are all these layers happening at one time that create all these inequities. So we’ll take a look at something that occurred from our own lens, our own lived experience, and think, this is why this happened.”

Organizations across America devote a majority of their efforts on making sure each different social group understands the other.

While Bryant said he supports theses efforts, he has found the best way to reach people is to focus on themselves and not everyone else.

“Historically, when we look at anything about racial diversity or inclusion, it’s all about learning about

the other person, ‘tell me everything there is to know about everybody else that is different than me,’ and that is any of us at anytime,” Bryant said. “And really, the biggest growth area is to tell learn about ourselves.

If we ask anyone in America if they are racist, sexist, or homophobic, 2 percent of us would say ‘yes’ and those are usually the people who are a part of large scale hate groups.

The other large percentage of people do microaggressions or other subtle forms of racism, what’s called ‘implicit bias.’”

Sophomore Jillian Nelson said she understood the need to focus less on others.

“We get told all the time to learn as much as we can about others so we don’t offend them, and that’s a good thing,” Nelson said. “But it’s smart to try to learn about the things you’re doing or feeling so you can stop yourself from being a part of the problem.”

As of now, there is no student version of this program, although Bryant said the University is trying to figure out how that would work and what it would look like.

Nelson said she would be open to being a part of a training session like this.

“It makes sense why they would go to faculty because they work with the most diverse range of people, but I think students could learn a lot from something like this. I know I could,” Nelson said.

Each session is based on conversations between the members of the training about one of the seven different topics covered during the course.

Bryant leads the sessions, but said he is not there to dictate the course.

“One thing I think is universal is I’m not teaching people concepts, I’m facilitating dialogue,” Bryant said. “So everyone in the room is the teacher and they teach each other through lived experiences. We explore questions and comments and videos and all of these things through discussions.”

Bryant said this allows the members to bring their own perspective on the topic at hand and provide that insight to the rest of the group.

“The biggest takeaway I see people get from that is they see how they are showing up in different situations based on the 20 identities they possess within themselves and, No. 2, I see people become aware that they are apart of this society out there,” Bryant said. “Because a lot of what we see today is that ‘they’ are bad people and that ‘I’ am good. So it’s really getting people to see how those behaviors show up in them at different times.”

If any faculty or staff member is interested in taking on the training in the future, Bryant said he welcomes input on when times should be and what participants of the program would like to learn.

Bryant said at the end of the day, the program is about catching things typically left to go unnoticed.

“We all have done something unconsciously, or consciously, that is disrespectful or ignorant and the key is to learn that we’ve done that and move past it,” Bryant said.

LEGISLATION
CONTINUED FROM A1

Samson said employees often come from competitive defeated and ashamed because of how they were treated in the competitive market.

“The number two things I hear when someone comes back from a competitive job is that they were told they are not smart enough or they are not fast enough. And that in itself, you can imagine what that does to your self-esteem.”

Certified employee Jenna McCray said she loves her job and feels like it gives her a place in the community.

“I love the staff here they are very nice and they always make sure that you have what you need and I also like all the hands on,” McCray said. “It’s good for me because I also have a disability, I know it doesn’t look like I do but I do, and so it makes it easy for those of us who do hands on things so we can keep going and we feel like we are helping out in the community also.”

Another rule that goes along with the legislation concerning sheltered workshops is that all certified employees should be paid minimum wage. Certified employees are paid 100 percent of what their ability allows them to accomplish.

Samson illustrated this concept through an analogy of mowing a yard.

“Let’s say you and I can mow a yard, and it takes an hour to mow the yard and it pays 15 dollars an hour,” Samson said. “But in one hour a person can only mow one-third of the yard. So they get paid five dollars. They are paid 100 percent of what their ability allows them to do. They can work at the pace that their disability will allow them to.”

However, there is a push to

pay all employees minimum wage. Even though this will cause financial issued for NoCoMo, Samson said they have been working toward paying all employees minimum wage since 2014 when the legislation was signed.

“We are gauging, planning and preparing to pay everybody minimum wage or more,” Samson said. “We’ve already started somewhat of the process in that we already have people who make minimum wage or more and are producing.”

However Samson said that the increase in wages could affect employees who have subsidized housing. According to Samson this change will also affect people who have subsidized housing, Supplemental Security Income, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (formerly Food Stamps), housing subsidies, and Medicaid.

Samson said there are some groups that do not want sheltered workshops to exist, and partnered with the complicated legislation the future of her workshop could be in danger, however she said she will not let that stop her from providing employment for the disabled.

“Worst case scenario there are no longer Missouri sheltered workshops,” Samson said. “We could still sustain and be a place of employment, the NoCoMo team, it would take some legal work that changes us from a sheltered workshop to a place that provides dignified employment for those with disabilities.”

Floor supervisor Amber Vogel made it clear that these people matter just as much as anyone else.

“The people that work here work really hard and they have a lot of pride in their jobs and dignity and they are really important. It takes every person here, there are multiple steps to each thing we do so everyone plays a big role,” Vogel said.

GREEK LIFE
CONTINUED FROM A1

“It’s not a justification of ‘do we keep Greek Life here at Northwest or not,’” Stehlik said.

The process intends to make Northwest’s Greek life the best it can be.

“We know Greek Life is valuable,” said Stehlik. “How do we make a model for our peer institutions to look at and say, ‘Wow, they are doing some great things at Northwest Missouri State University in their Greek Life department?’”

Timeshighereducation.com revealed survey results from members of the University Risk Management and Insurance Association. They found that two-thirds of the members think fraternity behavior is among their institutions’ top liability risks, although most also said fraternities were important to campus traditions and viewed the reputational risks they pose as less significant.

The last report sent in will focus on setting timelines for the future of Greek Life and potential programs to ensure its sustainability.

“They (Greek students) join these organizations for however long they’re a student here at Northwest, but their leadership changes every year,” Stehlik said. “How do we make sure we have resources to make sure that we’re not always starting over?”



HANNAH WOODSON | NW MISSOURIAN
The Greek Visioning Process was started to adapt Greek Life for a modern campus.

Blotters for the week of October 13

Maryville Department of Public Safety

Sep. 28
A summons was issued to **Sara N. Tompkins**, 30, for possession of drug paraphernalia at the 300 block of East 5th Street.

Oct. 1
There is an ongoing investigation for larceny in the 600 block of South Main.

Oct. 3
There is an ongoing investigation for larceny in the 600 block of Peaceful Way.

There is an ongoing investigation for larceny from a motor vehicle in the 1600 block of South Main.

Oct. 5
A summons was issued to **Matthew C. Wood**, 21, for possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia and violation of city park hours in the 1000 block of North Country Club.

Oct. 6
A summons was issued to **Nicholas D.A. Pablo**, 20, for minor in possession and disorderly conduct at the 200 block of East 3rd Street.

A summons was issued to **Jordan D. Dixon**, 20, for minor in possession at the 300 block of North Market.

There is an ongoing investigation for lost/stolen property in the 1600 block of South Main.

A summons was issued to **Nicole M. Still**, 42, for dog at large and

animal neglect at the 800 block of South Laura.

A summons was issued to **Ross R. Christie**, 20, Clarinda, Iowa, for driving while intoxicated and failure to register a motor vehicle in the 300 block of East 3rd Street.

Oct. 7
There is an ongoing investigation for stealing at the 200 block of East 3rd Street.

Oct. 8
A summons was issued to **Nicholas B. Birkenholz**, 19, for minor in possession at the 400 block of North Fillmore.

A summons was issued to **Timothy S. Warren Jr.**, 19, for minor in possession at the 200 block of West 7th Street.

for a liquor law violation at Hudson Hall.

A summons was issued for a liquor law violation at Hudson Hall.

Oct. 9
A summons was issued for a liquor law violation at Dieterich Hall.

A summons was issued for property damage at Lot 42.

Oct. 10
A summons was issued for a liquor law violation at Perrin Hall.

Oct. 7
A summons was issued for a liquor law violation at Franken Hall.

A summons was issued for a liquor law violation Tower Suites.

A summons was issued for a liquor law violation at Lot 9.

Oct. 8
Two summonses were issued for a liquor law violation at Perrin Hall.

Three summonses were issued

Northwest Missouri State University Police Department

Oct. 4
A summons was issued to **Micah D. Manser**, 19, of St. Joseph, for trespassing at Hudson Hall.

Two summonses were issued to **Jacob Black**, 18, and **Jakob Steinbecker**, 18, for drug law violation at Dieterich Hall.

Oct. 6
A summons was issued for a liquor law violation at South Complex.

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AUTOMOTIVE

DIRECTORY

#ICYMI

If you're not a huge fan of Presidential Candidate Donald Trump, this hashtag is for you: #MoreElectableThanTrump. People post pictures of things they think would work better than Trump for president. Pictures include Garfield, Lord Voldemort, Barney the Purple Dinosaur, the entire cast of "Friends" and even a block of cheese.

Society has gone crazy for catching them all in the recent game "Pokemon Go". The game has gone international now, and Norwegian prime minister Erna Solberg was caught playing it while attending a heated debate at the Storing, Norway's parliament. Surely if she can play it during a country's debate, your mom can be OK with you playing it at family dinner weekend, right?

SUDOKU

By MetroCreative

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Level: Intermediate

Paranormal Inactivity

COLIN VAUGHAN | NW MISSOURIAN

DANCING WITH YOURSELF

ALEXANDRA L. W

CROSSWORD

By Peter A Collins

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

Clues Across

1. Nonsense (slang)

5. Military leader (abbr.)

9. Removes

11. Streamed

13. Inner ear cavity

15. Where to go after high school

16. Olympics host

17. A day to remember fallen soldiers

19. Forearm bone

21. Bypass surgery pioneer F. Mason

22. Judo garments

23. Gentlemen

25. Large wrestler

26. Large integer

27. Makes a soft sound

29. Some claim to have six

31. Sunfish

33. Clan

34. A form of comedy

36. Defy

38. More (Spanish)

39. Sixteen ounces

41. Adventure story

43. Liquid distilled from wood or coal

44. Michigan ghost town

46. Fond of

48. Pearl Jam frontman

52. Clothes

53. Flinches

54. Giving the axe

56. Where planes are kept

57. Intervals

58. Plant's unit of reproduction

59. Equip

Clues Down

1. Cooks by exposure to direct heat

2. Using few words

3. Wood

4. Steer

5. Soft drink

6. Consider

7. Clears from a river

8. Claim again

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43					44			45		46
48			49	50				51		52
53							54		55	
56							57			
	58							59		

9. Beige

10. Witnesses

11. Spiked

12. Partidge actor Susan and Marmaduke director Tom

14. and Andy, TV show

15. Fraiche and de Menthe are two

18. Burden

20. Olfactory properties

24. Carbon particles

26. Set of four

28. A sweater pulled over the head

30. Relaxing places

32. Gets up

34. Canned fish

35. Blyton, children's author

37. A conceited and self-

centered person

38. Fine-textured cotton fabric

40. Turner and Kennedy

42. Repents

43. Smartphones, tablets, etc.

45. A way to garner

47. Eat them for breakfast

49. Former Tigers third baseman Brandon

50. Oh, God!

51. Canadian flyers

55. One legged Chinese mythological demon

SOLUTIONS

5	1	2	9	3	8	7	4	6
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1, 2, 3 Jump

Students break the rules to follow tradition

SYDNEY OETTER
A&E Writer | @SquidneyO

Every school has some tradition people take part in to feel a little more connected to alumni, fellow students and faculty. Northwest just takes it a step further by jumping into a pond that is not technically for swimming.

Colden Pond has been a part of the Northwest campus since the early 1930s. Jumping into the pond has been a rite of passage for many students to make their claim as a Bearcat. Students on campus reported they had heard about alumni jumping as far back as 50 years ago.

Jumping into Colden is a methodical process. First, students strip down to their undergarments and jump into Colden. They must then swim out, touch the fountain, swim back and try to gracefully climb out. While doing all of this, students' hearts are pounding and they are hoping no cops catch them.

Police Chief Clarence Green said some students have been caught during their jumps into Colden.

"The circumstances would dictate the action: ensure the individual is safe, ask them to leave, summons for student judicial, inform Human Resources if employee (faculty/staff) and/or arrest for trespassing," Green said.

The tradition is illegal and can place students at risk. The university police do not support this tradition simply because it places students in harm's way.

"We want students, employees and guests to be safe. The pond has a mixture of various types of debris in it and I am not supportive of people placing themselves in harm's way within the pond," Green said.

Junior Mia Blackman is one of the many who have succeeded in the feat of jumping into Colden while not getting caught or being harmed.

"I jumped into Colden to become a Summer Bearcat. Since there aren't a lot of people who stay during the summer, the few that do stay all get together and jump," Blackman said.

Students find this to be one of their favorite memories if they are not caught.

"It's really fun when you do it, but you have to be so careful because you want to make sure you don't get caught," Blackman said.

However the fear of getting caught did not deter Blackman from jumping again.

"We did it so many times during the summer," Blackman said. "After a night of being out, what better way to end a night than jumping into Colden pond and cooling off?"

Freshman Kaitlyn Burton heard her fellow classmates discussing their adventures her first night on campus.

"I was told, to be an official Bearcat, you had to jump into Colden, which at the time I thought was weird, but not so much anymore," Burton said.

It is not something kept quiet

on campus. People frequently talk about their weekend adventures while sitting at Grey's Truck Stop Sunday mornings.

The stories involve laughter about quickly grabbing their clothes from under the trees and benches and sprinting away to hide because someone found it funny to yell "cop."

Some students choose to view walking under the The Memorial Bell Tower to be their rite of passage to becoming a Bearcat. Senior Madison Foxx is one that does not find jumping into Colden to be the wisest decision.

"My big jumped in, cut her leg and got sick, so I shall never jump in. Plus it's gross #germphobe," Foxx said.

Foxx is not the only one that has heard of the horror of jumping into Colden pond. Sophomore Danielle O'Neill jumped in during work weekend and her experience was less than pleasant.

"One, I broke my shoe. That wasn't good. Secondly, when I woke up the next morning and looked at my clothes, I found a hook in my pants," O'Neill said.

Laughing about her experience, she said it would not be her last time jumping into Colden and hopefully her next experience she will not find a hook or break a shoe.

This tradition on campus leads to many great stories and memories for countless Bearcats.

Senior Brooke Kirby did it this past summer and laughed at her memories as she recalled her night.

"It was during the time when everyone was playing Pokemon Go. We were all just swimming in the lake, chilling and hanging out with all these people out trying to catch Pokemon," Kirby said.

Colden is famous for its Kissing Bridge that is rumored to be where romance blossoms, but maybe it wasn't the Kissing Bridge. The experience of stripping and swimming illegally would be enough to make anyone fall in love.

Students should jump with friends to avoid any awkward encounters that might occur otherwise.

"I mean, I can't say that I haven't jumped into Colden with a boy that I liked before, but I wasn't focusing on that. I was focusing on the fun of jumping into a pond that I wasn't suppose to be in," Blackman said.

Northwest has its traditional institutional experiences that make students Bearcats, such as walking under the Belltower as a freshman class or walking the stage for students to receive their diploma. Northwest also has its weird traditions such as stripping down and jumping into Colden for a late night swim.

Before students jump they need to remember that there are goal post, yearbooks, and various other debris at littering the bottom of Colden. Although this is the time for students to live their lives and be adventurous.

The Missourian does not condone jumping into Colden Pond, or breaking the law.



HANNAH WOODSON | NW MISSOURIAN

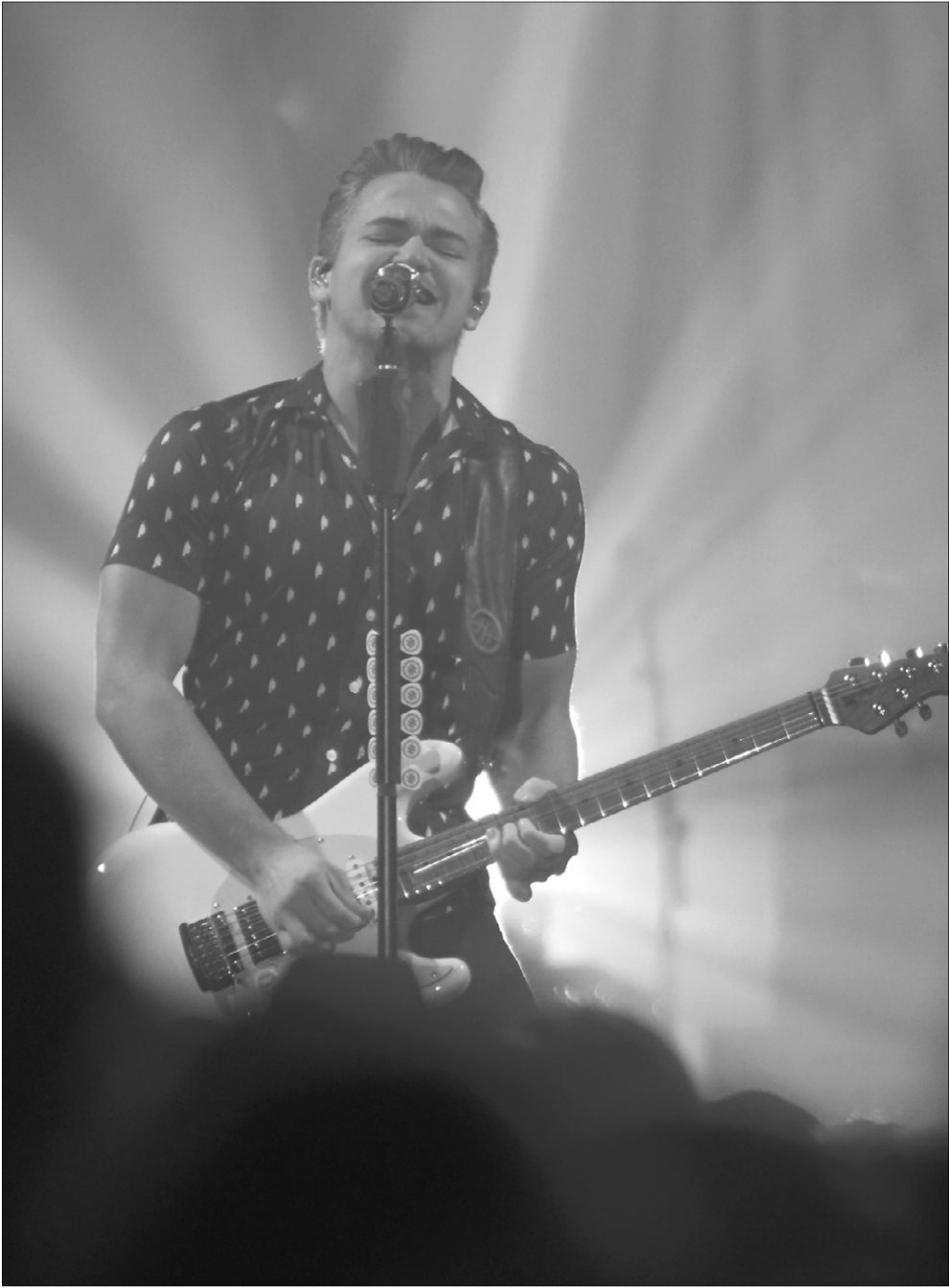
Although jumping into Colden Pond is illegal, many students take the risk with their friends for adventure. Police Chief Clarence Green warns students the leap could be unsafe because of the debris at the bottom of the lake.



FILE | NW MISSOURIAN

Another long standing tradition at Northwest is to tear down the goal posts at the end of a semi-final win and throw the posts in Colden Pond. Even though the posts are eventually removed, fragments remain at the bottom of the pond along with old yearbooks and tree branches. Students must decide if the plunge is worth the risk.

Hayes steals Bearcats' hearts



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN

Hunter Hayes performed at Bearcat Arena Saturday, Oct. 8. Hayes has co-written songs for Rascal Flatts and Montgomery Gentry as well as having his own three songs hit No. 1. Hayes said he loves to play at colleges because of the community atmosphere. He compared the scene to meeting up with old friends. Hayes started being interested in music when he was just 2 years old.

Green Dot discusses bystander intervention

JAMES HILL
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Green Dot continues a conversation about violence prevention with its own dialogue series Oct. 6.

Green Dot is a violence prevention initiative focused on reducing violence, stalking, sexual assault and partner violence. This particular discussion is focused on the Brock Turner events and social media.

Turner was sentenced to six months in jail for sexually assaulting an unconscious woman.

Turner was convicted with three felonies: assault with intent to commit rape of an intoxicated or unconscious person, penetration of an intoxicated person and penetration of an unconscious person.

Turner only served three months of this sentence because of good behavior.

Green Dot Coordinator Danielle Koonce points out how predators may use alcohol as a weapon.

“Some research is coming out that shows that alcohol is used as a weapon in a lot of cases,” Koonce said. “Weaponization of alcohol is used to facilitate sexual assaults. It happens that drinks get drugged and stuff too, but often times it might just be alcohol.” She went on to say this could be from consuming a drink that was strongly mixed.

Alpha Kappa Lambda (AKL) has implemented a system to help prevent this from happening. Anytime it hosts a party, there are one or two guys that do not drink all night.

They are the ones that hand out all of the drinks and the only ones behind the bar. AKL also has a couple designated drivers for the night.

Sophomore James Christensen took it upon himself to make sure his friends made it home.

“I made sure to talk to all friends from my floor before they went out partying,” Christensen said. “I said ‘If you guys need me, call and I will come and get you.’ I made sure everyone on my floor had my

cell phone number. I stayed up till three in the morning and made sure everyone got back in. I like to think that I made somewhat of a difference. I don’t remember how many nights I sat with people that were too drunk and couldn’t make it back to their rooms and took care of them.”

Koonce pointed out not everyone has to be invested like that in every single situation. She said if you see someone who is drunk at a party, try to find the friends he or she came with or try to get that person to safe rides.

The conversation shifted to talk about the Daisy Coleman case and how her story split the community apart. Christensen mentioned a similar case in his hometown of Blair, Nebraska.

Two 15 year-olds were accused of sexually assaulting another minor in the laundry room in an apartment complex. Originally, they were supposed to be tried as adults but the case was moved to juvenile court.

In Nebraska, anyone under the age of 19 is a minor. The judge may call to waive the protections that juvenile court provides. This may happen if the juvenile is charged with a particularly serious offense, has a lengthy juvenile record or if past rehabilitation efforts for the juvenile have been unsuccessful.

“(Moving the case to juvenile court) angered a lot of people in the community,” Christensen said.

His younger sister is friends with the alleged victim.



SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

The do’s and do not’s for mock interview day success

BETH POTTROFF
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Interviews can be intimidating and cause anxiety and dread. Luckily, here at Northwest, Bearcats can prepare for real world interviews by attending Mock Interview Day.

Mock Interview Day allows students at Northwest to gain interview experience by meeting real employers in person.

Employers interview the students and give them direct feedback on their resumes, interview responses and overall impressions.

Each mock interview session takes around 40 minutes, with 20 minutes spent on the interview and 10 to 15 for feedback and critique.

On the Northwest website, the career services page contains many different resources with tips and advice on how to prepare for an inter-

view. The professional staff members at Career Services share more tips on how to make interviews successful.

The Career Service members put together Mock Interview Day to allow Bearcats to prepare for real interviews. Preparation includes researching the employer, understanding the job description and dressing appropriately.

Joan Schneider is the director of

Career Services. Each year, the staff at Career Services invite employers to participate in Mock Interview Day based on industry, class requirements and faculty input.

According to Career Services, there are many do’s for a person during an interview.

NEXT OPPORTUNITY

Feb. 22, 2017



SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

THE STROLLER:

Your woman wants you to stop slut shaming

If you live under a rock and have no idea what is happening, our devilishly handsome Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has made yet another idiotic remark about women and sexual assault.

Yet part of America still wants him to be president. Yes, it is shocking to me, too, but this is not what this Stroller is about.

Why are we still slut shaming in 2016?

Come on Northwest, we are better than this.

You live on a college campus; you know people are having sex. I mean, people are having sex everywhere from dorm rooms to cars, and some people even attempt it on the third floor of the library.

But that does not mean you have a say in what they are doing.

We need to take a moment and realize we have to stop slut shaming men and women for their sex lives or their lifestyles in general.

You have to understand whether your peers are choosing to have sex

or not, it is not your concern. And if they are having sex, how many partners they happened to have does not affect you.

At most people, we have to realize it does not matter if someone has had sex with zero or 50 people.

Why in the world is it your business or mine? The big thing that I want you to realize is that it is not.

I know it is totally weird another person’s sex life will not affect you. What a strange concept? Yeah, I had the same thought.

Guys, I am sorry. I am not trying to push you under the bus, but

it is true, women face more ridicule for their sexual actions than you do. You cannot disagree with that argument, either.

So let’s cut this crap. It is absolutely stupid to come at me because my number might be slightly higher than yours.

Stop judging me for letting my sexual freak flag fly every once in awhile.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

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SAVIOR
CONTINUED FROM A14

“The biggest thing that helped us was we knew where we wanted to get to and we put all our energy in that direction.”

Tjeerdsma inherited a broken and tarnished program, but turned darkness into light in just four short years. Though obstacles and other job opportunities presented themselves, he stayed true to the Bearcat way. An intriguing factor in Tjeerdsma’s journey is his fate as a coach at Northwest was out of his control.

“I’ve always felt like I’m where the Lord wants me to be,” Tjeerdsma said. “I feel like that’s one of the rea-

sons why I stayed here.”

The state of Missouri, under Gov. John Ashcroft, had announced plans to close the university. In Tjeerdsma’s first season as head coach at Northwest Missouri, his team went 0-11. This created an even darker cloud over the campus and many questions began to form concerning the future of Northwest as a whole.

“There were thoughts to ‘why did I take this job?’ Honestly, when I took the job, I didn’t know it was going to be as much of a process as it turned out to be. I didn’t realize how bad in shape it was.”

Even in such dismal times, Tjeerdsma saw the light. What

caught the eyes of many was the speed in which the program was turned around.

“We said that we were going to stay the course,” Tjeerdsma said. “The transition was in a hurry. As coaches, we made a pact. We said that we weren’t going to complain about what we don’t have. All we’re going to do is talk about what we’re gonna get done and stay positive.”

After a winless season in 1994, Northwest finished the following year with a 6-5, 6-3 MIAA record. The next two seasons, Northwest finished at the top of the conference, combining for 23 wins and three losses. Finally, in 1998, the Bearcats brought home the program’s first

national title as well as a second in 1999.

“It was a combination of a lot of us doing the right thing,” Tjeerdsma said. “Football is not one person. We had a great staff, and I’m just thrilled that the program has now grown into a national power.”

Though the spotlight tasted sweet, Tjeerdsma was attracting interest across the country. One job that particularly interested the Bearcat coach was a position at the University of Texas-San Antonio. Though he applied for the job, former University of Miami coach Larry Coker took the position.

“I thought I might be leaving, but it didn’t work out,” Tjeerdsma

said. “I’m very content of where I ended up and where I’m at now.”

One of the biggest contributors to Tjeerdsma and his program’s success lies in his identity. As a coach, Tjeerdsma had a way with his players. Through the history books, former players such as right guard Jeremy Davis were resurrected, flipping their lives around after turning to the church.

“I grew up in a Christian home and that was modeled by my family,” Tjeerdsma said.

That example set by the coach can be attested to Tjeerdsma’s story. His walk with God remains strong and will forever be a pinnacle to his coaching career and legacy.



DYLAN COLDSMITH | NW MISSOURIAN
Emily Long traveled to state where she shot a total of 193 in the two day match.

LONG
CONTINUED FROM A14

“She’s a freshman, and I can tell you that state can be a different beast,” Ricks said. “Even with that, she puttied really well.”

In the first round of the state tournament, the youngster converted almost every chance she got on the putting green. With 19 putts on the front nine and 14 putts on the back nine, this led to a final 97, which was good enough to be tied for 48th place on the scoreboard.

The second day, Emily brought all of her game together to put up an astonishing 96.

“She didn’t putt as well today,” Ricks said. “But that didn’t stop the rest of her game from coming together.”

With a one stroke better day, Emily turned to the scorer’s table, and ended her state adventure

with a 193, which lead her to a 49th place finish.

Emily will take this remarkable finish, but will not be satisfied and will keep striving to get better.

“This was the grand finale. I am so proud of what she did on the course these last couple of days; just competing with such confidence is amazing,” Ricks said. “I know she will take this result and keep working. Golf is her passion and I know she’ll be out there getting better almost every day.”

The Maryville golf team will look to be a dominate force in Class 1 District 8 next year, with Long as its secret weapon.

“I don’t like having expectations, but I am so excited for this team next year,” Ricks said. “I know Emily and all the girls will work for it this summer and we can come back with an even more dominant team.”



HANNAH WOODSON | NW MISSOURIAN
Senior Lauren Macali eyes her opponent in a doubles match Sept. 29. Macali will travel to state this weekend once again.

MACALI’S FINAL TWO SEASONS		
	2015	2016
Single Wins	26	25
Doubles Wins	18	12
Singles Losses	4	3
Doubles Losses	6	3

MAKENZIE DOCKERTY | NW MISSOURIAN SOURCE: NICOLE MCGUINNESS

SPORTS BRIEF

Bearcats finish strong in only home meet of the season

Senior Taylor Gardner shot the second lowest round in Northwest History at the Bearcat Fall Classic.

Gardner finished the second half of the two-day event with a 73. The senior walked into the clubhouse with an 85 on day one. She tied for 14th individually with a combined score of 158. Her previous low recorded was a 79 at the UCO Classic in 2014.

The Bearcats tied with Central Missouri for an eighth overall finish. Junior Maddie Propst, and sophomores Elise McDonough and Nikki McCurdy all tied for 33rd with a score of 167 over the two day event.

ATHLETES of the WEEK



BEARCATS

SPOOFHOUNDS



Taylor Gardner



The senior shot a 73 at the Midwest Fall Classic Oct. 11, tying for the second lowest round in Northwest history. Gardner tied for 14th in the event.

Brayden Clews-Proctor



The sophomore finished third in the men’s 8K race at the Lewis Cross Over Invitational Oct. 8. He ran for a time of 24:35.79.

Emily Long



The freshman shot for a 193 in the Class 1 State Tournament Oct. 8-9. She finished the event in 49th place.

Bob Bruckner



The senior running back ran for 120 yards and two touchdowns on seven carries in a 64-0 victory over Savannah Oct. 7

Spoofhounds aim for conference championship

JOSEPH ANDREWS

Assistant Sports Editor | @Joe_Andrews15

Spoofhound football has the chance to come away with its first championship of the year with a victory over St. Joseph Lafayette.

The Spoofhounds lead the Midland Empire Conference (MEC) heading into week nine. A win over the Fighting Irish secures an outright MEC title.

“Our focus will be on beating Lafayette and getting the conference Championship,” coach Matt Webb said. “We are a very proud member of the MEC. There are a lot of good teams. We’ve been able to be the outright conference championship four years in a row. That’s our focus. It’s a real, simple focus.”

Lafayette enters the game 6-2. The program has also claimed the St. Joseph City Championship this season, beating Central, Benton and Bishop LeBlond.

“You look at their record, they have beaten good football teams,” Webb said. “They are a very talented football team on both sides of the ball. Their skill positions are dynamic. They do a good job. They’ve always had a good game plan to stop us; they are very physical. They are difficult to block, and very dynamic on offense, so we will have our hands full.”

Junior quarterback Diego Bernard leads the Fighting Irish offense. Webb sees Bernard as a talented athlete who may be hard to contain.

“He does an unbelievable job,” Webb said. “He’s going to be hard to contain on a defensive standpoint. We’ll have to play good team defense. We always reach good team defense, which is having good angles and good vertical coverage and horizontal leverage. All of that will stay the same this week.”

Lafayette coach Matt Hardy sees Maryville in a similar manner. He recognizes the effort the Spoofhound coaching staff put into developing a disciplined team.

“Maryville is always a well-coached team,” Hardy said. “Coach Webb and his staff do a great job of getting their kids ready to play each week. They are always going to be extremely physical on both sides of the ball.”

The Fighting Irish recognize the power Maryville has had this season. The team plans to look away from the statistics, and focus on improving on its 27-0 win over Bishop LeBlond.

“This week is no different than any other week,” Hardy said. “We have to work on fixing the little things from the previous week and continue to get better everyday in practice.”



DYLAN COLD SMITH | NW MISSOURIAN
Senior Halley Sims preforms a bumping drill. Spoofhounds play Northland Christian Oct. 13 starting at 6:30 p.m.



SHAWNA KINGSTON | NW MISSOURIAN
Head coach Matt Webb gives words of wisdom to his players after a 64-0 victory over Savannah Sat. Oct. 7. Spoofhounds continue 8-0.

Maryville shut out Savannah 64-0 Oct. 7. The Spoofhounds produced 417 yards in offense, including 290 rushing yards. 120 yards came from senior running back Bob Bruckner. Bruckner sees little room for improvement on the ground, but recognizes a need for improved focus and mentality. “There is really nothing we could build on in the running back area,” Bruckner said. “But, I feel like our offensive line could be a little better and more disciplined, rather than getting penalty calls. We are going to have to get the edge on them and not get that many.”

Maryville had 80 penalty yards against Savannah. This is an improvement from 135 against Smithville. Discipline improvement will help the loss in yardage decrease.

“It’s just a continued effort to be consistent,” Webb said. “We operate pretty well. If we aren’t consistent, we hurt ourselves, whether that be with penalties or loss of yardage plays. Good teams don’t do that. We want to strive for consistency.”

NEXT GAME
Maryville @ St. Joseph Lafayette
Oct. 14 @ 7 p.m.

Volleyball strives for strong finish

TOBIAS TODD
Sports Reporter | @NWMSports

As the postseason draws near, the Maryville volleyball team aims to hit a high point on its roller coaster regular season.

In their final tune-up before senior night, the Spoofhounds traveled to Smithville to take on the Warriors. The Spoofhounds suffered yet another close loss, falling 2-1 in three sets.

The focus for these final three regular season games will shift to consistency and passion.

“I hope we get to see a passionate team play,” coach Connor Kellerstrass said. “A team that plays with a sense of urgency. We want them to go out there and be fired up and finish the season on a high note.”

So late in the season, many coaches and players will say it is harder to maintain that energy level than it is near the beginning of the season. It is imperative for the players to not let the long and hard-fought season wear them down so close to district play.

In attempts to perfect play before the postseason, consistency will be key. This season has been filled with good moments and rough patches. For a successful postseason run, the Spoofhounds will need to enter the tournament playing their most consistent volleyball of the season.

“We just want to make sure we are playing well leading into districts,” Kellerstrass said.



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NW FOOTBALL

MIAA Standings

	Overall
*NORTHWEST.....	6-0
Emporia St.....	5-1
Fort Hays St.....	5-1
Central Missouri.....	4-2
Missouri Western.....	4-2
Pittsburg St.....	4-2
Washburn.....	4-2
Central Oklahoma.....	1-5
Lindenwood.....	1-5
Missouri Southern.....	1-5
Northeastern St.....	1-5
Nebraska Kearney.....	0-6

Oct. 15

Northeastern St. at NORTHWEST
Fort Hays St. at Washburn
Central Oklahoma at Nebraska Kearney
Pittsburg St. at Missouri Western
Lindenwood at Emporia St.
Central Missouri at Missouri Southern

NW VOLLEYBALL

MIAA Standings

	Overall	MIAA
Nebraska Kearney.....	21-1	7-1
Washburn.....	16-4	7-1
Central Oklahoma.....	20-1	6-1
*NORTHWEST.....	18-1	6-1
Missouri Western.....	12-7	4-3
Fort Hays St.....	16-5	4-4
Central Missouri.....	13-6	3-4
Lindenwood.....	6-11	2-5
Pittsburg St.....	4-15	2-5
Emporia St.....	9-11	2-6
Missouri Southern.....	4-16	1-6
Southwest Baptist.....	3-17	0-7

Oct. 14

Washburn at NORTHWEST

Oct. 15

Emporia St. at NORTHWEST

NW WOMEN’S SOCCER

MIAA Standings

	Overall	MIAA
Northeastern St.....	11-1	4-1
Central Missouri.....	10-1	4-1
Central Oklahoma.....	8-3-1	4-1
Fort Hays St.....	8-3-1	4-1
Missouri Western.....	8-4	3-2
Washburn.....	7-4-1	3-2
Emporia St.....	5-5-2	3-2
Lindenwood.....	5-5-1	2-3
*NORTHWEST.....	4-6-1	2-3
Nebraska Kearney.....	4-7-1	1-4
Missouri Southern.....	3-7-1	0-5
Southwest Baptist.....	0-11	0-5

Oct. 14

Northeastern St. at NORTHWEST

Oct. 16

Central Oklahoma at NORTHWEST

MHS FOOTBALL

MEC STANDINGS

	Overall	MEC
*MARYVILLE.....	8-0	6-0
Chillicothe.....	7-1	5-1
St. Joseph Lafayette.....	6-2	4-2
Smithville.....	6-2	4-2
St. Joseph Benton.....	4-4	3-3
Bishop LeBlond.....	3-5	1-5
Savannah.....	1-7	1-5
Cameron.....	0-8	0-6

Oct. 14

MARYVILLE at St. Joseph Lafayette
Chillicothe at St. Joseph Benton
Bishop LeBlond at Savannah
Cameron at Smithville

Bearcats stun conference foe, remain fixated on Washburn



Sophomore Maddy Bruder blocks a spike during practice Oct. 10. Bearcats continue the season 18-1 with their next game Friday Oct. 14 against Washburn at home.

TREY RANDLE
Chief Sports Reporter | @treyrock36

After falling flat against inter-conference opponent Central Oklahoma, Northwest used its next three outings to not only get back on track, but send a message to the rest of the conference.

The two days off, following its tough loss, was all Northwest needed to regroup and return to its aggressive style of play. First, it traveled 30 minutes south to St. Joseph to deliver a 3-0 drubbing to Missouri Western. Unlike the two contests prior, Northwest executed from beginning to end. Although Northwest took the victory, history shows victory over Missouri Western is not always a given. “We really started well from the standpoint of getting down there and beating them in three,” Coach Woerth said. “That’s something that has not happened in a while, so it was nice to get it under our belts.” Three days later, Northwest traveled to Lindenwood University and escaped with a 3-2 victory after what should have been a one-sided contest, according to each team’s record. Nevertheless, Northwest climbed out of its proverbial funk and focused its attention on top-15 Central Missouri.

To put this into perspective, the last time Northwest beat Central Missouri was Nov. 2, 1984. The 32-year losing streak came to an end after a dominate performance that ended in a 3-0 sweep. “This is the year that we were going to make headway,” junior setter Sarah Dannettell said. “It’s been wonderful to take a team that was ranked above us off like that.” And just like that, Northwest found itself back in the conversation of who is the best team in arguably the nation’s best conference. With performers like Dannettell, who finished with 31 assists and a service ace, Northwest was able to dismantle the defending MIAA tournament champions. Also, in its historic victory, Northwest saw strong performances from sophomore Maddy Bruder (18 kills) and sophomore Olivia Nowakowski (20 digs). Northwest turns its attention to another ranked conference opponent, No. 15 Washburn. Unlike other opponents, this game will be highlighted for multiple reasons. This game marks Northwest’s annual Pink Out game, which honors those who are or have fought breast cancer. The team will honor those affected by wearing special pink uni-

forms for the match. “It’s a wonderful opportunity to go out there and fight for people who are not us,” Dannettell said. “We have a couple of moms and grandmas of teammates who have had or are suffering from breast cancer.” The second reason why Friday’s matchup against Washburn is highlighted is due to the fact that players have been fixated on beating Washburn since well before the season even began. “We talk about Washburn when we get in the gym during the summer and during 6:30 a.m. workouts,” Dannettell said. “There’s just something about Washburn that ticks us off and we haven’t had a win against them in a long time.” Northwest dropped both of its contests to Washburn in 2015, only winning one set in six total. Now, with momentum on its side and players contributing from all facets of the game, Northwest will try to end two losing streaks in as many weeks.

NEXT GAME
Washburn @ Northwest Oct. 14 @ 7 p.m.
Emporia State @ Northwest Oct. 15 @ 6 p.m. (Free Admission)

Soccer looks to bounce back off consecutive losses

JOSEPH ANDREWS
Assistant Sports Editor | @Joe_Andrews15

Bearcat Women’s soccer is just steps away from finding the recipe to win on a regular basis. Northwest (4-6-1) competed against Fort Hays St. and Nebraska Kearney last weekend. The Bearcats competed at a high level in both games, but were not able to come away with a win. “We are competing really well with everyone we are playing,” junior Danielle Wolfe said. “If we keep it up with the intensity out there, then we are bound to get the win.” Wolfe scored the only Bearcat goal of the weekend against Fort Hays St. (8-3-1). The goal came in the 68th minute, giving the Bearcats a 1-0 lead heading into halftime. The Bearcats gave up two goals in the second half, going on to lose 1-2. “Typically, when we go down there, we give up three goals,” coach Tracy Hoza said. “We battled; we actually went in to compete and we gave it everything. After the game, it was nice when their coach said we did a fantastic job. Normally, they don’t make comments like that.”

The Bearcats had eight shots against Nebraska Kearney (4-7-1). Two of the shots came on corner kicks in the last 20 seconds of the game. Northwest lost both of the final shots, falling to the Lopers 1-0. “The first half we came out flat,” Hoza said. “The second half we came out on fire. We had three starters go out and not come back on. We suffered a lot of things right there with obstacles straight away to overcome. I thought we did a good job. We gave up a goal. That was disappointing, but we



Dylan Coldsmith | NW Missourian
Junior Danielle Wolfe sends the ball down the field against Central Missouri Sept. 25. The Bearcats lost 0-5.

still battled to the end.” Northwest was able to show dominance in portions of both games. Hoza sees potential for success if the team is able to settle to the idea of having momentum through an entire game. “You cannot be in front of the goal and not score,” Hoza said. “We can elevate pressure from other teams when we score.”



SEE FULL STORY ONLINE AT
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

AMBER GIERSTORF
Chief Sports Reporter | @ambermae30

The hardest thing for any athlete is to come back after a career threatening injury, but that is exactly what Northwest junior cross country runner Brandon Phipps is attempting. Early during summer training, Phipps strained his left calf muscle. Along with his calf injury, Phipps also faced inflamed tendons in his foot. These injuries combined to seriously hinder his ability to practice. “My training has gotten delayed by so much,” Phipps said. “This summer, it kind of delayed me from July all the way to pre-season camp.” Returning from an injury is difficult, and it will not happen overnight. Phipps knows he will have to continue training hard to get back to peak performance. “I’m just working my way back into shape,” Phipps said. “It’s kind of a process, and I’m just looking at it meet to meet.”

Phipps’s first meet back this season was at the Woody Greeno Invitational Sept. 17. He finished in 69th place out of 219 men with a time of 28:00.1. Although it was not his best finish, it was a solid first race back. Oct. 1, Phipps competed again at the Arkansas Chili Pepper Classic. He finished with a time of 26:00.31, a major improvement from the previous race. Phipps was pleased with his progression. “It’s a process with my times,” Phipps said. “They aren’t going to be as fast as I want them to be, but I definitely improved a lot from the meet before.” Phipps continued to better his times this past weekend at the Lewis Cross Over Invitational in Rome-



Isaiah Swann | NW Missourian
Junior Brandon Phipps works on trial runs at practice Oct. 12.

oville, Illinois. Phipps finished in 46th place out of 184 runners with a time of 25:55.09. This is only four seconds faster than his personal record from last season. Coach Scott Lorek knows that Phipps is not at his best yet, and still has work to do. He is confident that Phipps will be ready to go for the postseason. “He isn’t completely where he should be fitness-wise, but we have enough time,” Lorek said. “I think he is going to be very good for us when the serious stuff comes.”



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ISAIAH SWANN | NW MISSOURIAN
Athletic Director Mel Tjeerdsma gazes upon the field where his football empire began. Tjeerdsma finished with 183 wins, 12 MIAA championships and three National Championships.

SAVIOR

Living legend led program into the promised land

183-43

Career coaching record

ISAIAH SWANN
Sports Editor | @iswanny3503

From field to faith and everything in between, athletic director Mel Tjeerdsma has given Northwest Missouri a savior to remember.



The Bearcats have the longest active winning streak in college football. The 21-game stint is the second-longest in program history behind Tjeerdsma's squad, which set the record (24) in the 1999-2000 seasons.

Coach Adam Dorrel, who helms Northwest football, looks to break a record that was thought to stand the test of time.

In the last two decades, Northwest has accumulated 240 wins, the most in FBS, FCS and Division II football.

With Dorrel at the brink of reaching such an accomplishment, many claim the success began when Tjeerdsma arrived to coach the Bearcats in 1994.

Tjeerdsma retired in 2011 after accumulating 183 wins and 3 championships. He returned to lead the entire athletics department in 2013, a move President John Jasinski said was about moving forward, not looking back.

"It's not about legacy; it's not about our broad past. It's really about our very, very bright future," Jasinski said.

Accepting the athletic director position was a new mission for Tjeerdsma.

"I knew it was going to be a challenge," Tjeerdsma said.

MEL TJEERDSMA CAREER RECORD

	WINS	LOSSES
1994	0	11
1995	6	5
1996	11	2
1997	12	1
1998	15	0
1999	14	1
2000	11	1
2001	7	4
2002	12	1
2003	8	3
2004	11	2
2005	11	4
2006	14	1
2007	12	2
2008	13	2
2009	14	1
2010	12	2

★ Championship Appearance ● Playoff Appearance
National Champions
MAKENZIE DOCKERTY | NW MISSOURIAN
SOURCE: BEARCATSPORTS.COM

SEE SAVIOR | A9



DYLAN COLDSMITH | NW MISSOURIAN
Freshman Emily Long placed 49th out of 92 other players in the golf State Championship Oct. 10-11.

Young Spoofhound impresses in post season debut

TRENT SPINNER
Sports Reporter | @NWMSports

Freshman Emily Long showcased her abilities against some of Missouri's best in the Girl's Golf State Championship Oct. 10 and 11.

As the only Maryville golfer to make it out of sectionals, Long wanted to make a statement in this year's Class 1 State Tournament at the Meadow Acres Country Club in Jefferson City.

To Long, this year has been a great learning year. As a freshman, she learned the basics of what high school golf holds and she has taken it to a new level. This has been a long time coming, as she has been playing since she was three years old.

"Playing in state is pretty awesome," Long said. "It's such a huge accomplishment to me."

Long knows that confidence

is key to a successful game and has taken her instilled confidence to the putting green to improve her game even more.

"I plan on just being confident going into it," Long said. "I have been working on my putting all week long, practicing taking my club straight back and lining up better."

Confidence is also a key aspect of Emily's everyday game. Especially when it comes to her short game, she knows she has to be confident to succeed.

"I told her to just go out and have fun," Coach Brenda Ricks said. "We've been working on putting all week, because she kind of struggled with it in sectionals."

Long had a rough time with the greens in sectional play, but was able to establish a dominant putting performance at the State Championships.

SEE LONG | A9

Back-to-back state tournament appearances for Maryville Ace

AMBER GIERSTORF
Chief Sports Reporter | @ambermae30

Every high school athlete dreams of competing in the state tournament. For Maryville senior Lauren Macali, that dream is about to come true for the second straight year.



Macali defeated Excelsior Springs' Ashleigh Whitmire 6-1, 6-0 Monday Oct. 3, to claim the Section 8 singles title. This victory means that Macali will be heading back to the Class 1 State Tennis Tournament for the second year in a row. This will be Macali's first year going to state as a singles player.

Macali went to the state tournament last season as part of a doubles team, with senior Kelly Filipis. The pair lost to the eventual Class 1 State Champions, Barstow's Jane King and Amelia Smith.

Most athletes would be nervous going to state for the first time alone, but not Macali. She is ecstatic and, no matter what happens, she is proud of how she played this season.

"Honestly, I'm pretty excited," Macali said. "I'm not really going to be too upset if things don't go as planned; I'm just really happy to have made it."

Macali has been working towards this goal her whole life. She started playing tennis competitively when she was in sixth grade, and prior to that she spent a lot of time hitting around and practicing. As for the reason she started playing, Macali says it is in her blood.

"My whole family has played tennis for their whole lives, and so it's kind of something we all went out and did together," Macali said.

Playing tennis started out as a family event, and Macali quickly developed a love for the sport. Macali's favorite part is not the actual competitions, but rather practicing and perfecting her game.

"I really just like hitting, honestly," Macali said. "I don't really like playing games. I would rather just go out and hit for fun."

Macali had a strong start to her high school career, earning the No. 1 spot on the varsity team as a freshman. Despite this early accomplishment, it has not always been easy for Macali.

Coach Nicole McGinness has trained Macali all four years at Maryville. She has coached her through the highs and lows of her career, so McGinness knows how hard she has had to work to reach this level of success.

"She just had to learn and get more experience, and now in her senior year, she has come so far," McGinness said. "She is waiting on the ball to hit it, and mentally, she is more prepared every time she plays, too."

Overcoming mental challenges is one of the toughest things for an athlete to do, let alone a young athlete with a lot of talent.



HANNAH WOODSON | NW MISSOURIAN
Senior Lauren Macali returns to the state tournament for the second year in a row. Macali will travel to Springfield, MO this weekend in the Class 1 section in the singles bracket.

Macali came into high school as the youngest girl on the team and was immediately placed in a leadership role.

According to McGinness, this was a major challenge for Macali her first couple years on the team.

"The first couple years was the problem," McGinness said. "Being a freshman, and being the youngest one there while the other girls had all the experience was a struggle for her."

Over time, this challenge has become a major asset for Macali. She has managed to overcome the obstacles and focus on her game, which has led to her outstanding season.

"I wouldn't say I was very successful my first two years, but definitely this year, the key to my success has been my mental game," Macali said. "I've really been on and wanting to win, and so that's helped a lot."

McGinness has enjoyed getting to watch Macali develop over the past four years. She is very proud of how

SEE MACALI | A9